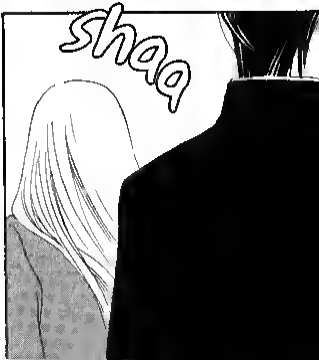
CHAPTER TWO

School entrance ceremony is today.
HAGANE, DO YOU THINK WE'LL BE IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN?
EH ?
Ha
IT'S OUR LAST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL, SO IT'D SUCK IF WE WEREN'T
AH
12. Takamori Hagane
13. Nagano Rio
1. Fujita Ai
2. Origasa Suzuko
3. Yamamoto Emi

HE DOESN'T SEEM TOO GLAD THAT WE'LL BE TOGETHER...

NOW I'M NERVOUS ABOUT SENIOR YEAR... I THOUGHT IT'D BE FINE IF WE WERE BOTH IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN...

I DON'T THINK IT'LL MAKE MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE, SINCE WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN IN THE SAME CLASS



EXACTLY LIKE BEFORE...
stare
YOU
stare
KYAA ..!
?!
grab!
EH ?!
THAT FACE —
WHO ARE YOU ?!

YOU ARE INCREDIBLY BEAUTIFUL
EH
HUH ?
THANK YOU, GOD!
I'M TELLING THE TRUTH! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE LIKE YOU!
UHM
THIS HAS GOT TO BE DESTINY!
WH... WHAT THE HECK IS THIS GUY TALKING ABOUT?!
UHM
DON'T YOU THINK THIS IS FATE?
NOT REA-LLY
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT
grab

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
HUH?
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE LIKE THAT,
HUH?
ARE YOU HER BOY-FRIEND?
HUH?!
HA-GANE
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS JUST STAND THERE LIKE AN IDIOT?
DON'T WASTE OUR TIME
sigh

YOU
YOU SHOULD THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW WHO THE HELL YOU ARE
EH?
DID I FORGET TO INTRODUCE MYSELF?

MY NAME'S MATSURA KOREMITSU
I JUST MOVED HERE IN ORDER TO STUDY
BY THE WAY WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS!
nice to meet you!
what the hell.

WELL I'VE HAD A HARD LIFE UP UNTIL NOW!
NATURALLY I'D ACT THIS WAY TO AN ANGEL!
OI!
Hmm hmm
Iaa
UGH, YOU'RE SO STUPID CALLING HER AN ANGEL
.....
DON'T EVEN TRY TO GET TOO CLOSE AND GET RID OF YOUR RIDICULOUS DELUSIONS
NAMES...? I KNOW IT ALREADY, I THINK
NA-MES?
OURS?
TAKAMORI HAGANE, AND THIS MUST BE SUZUKO ORIGASA SUZUKO
YOU TWO SEEM VERY CLOSE DON'T YOU?
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE NOT TOGETHER?

AH
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
I SEE
THAT'S GREAT THEN!
WE SHOULD GO
THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY SHOULD BE STARTING SOON
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
"IT'S NOT LIKE THAT"
...I KNEW IT. HIS ANSWER EXPLAINS IT ALL.

I—D
HEY
ARE YOU IN ANY CLUBS ?
SHOULD I TRY JOINING THE BASKET-BALL CLUB ?
SU-ZUKO ?
I UH, DON'T KNOW
MAJOR'S TOWARDS
HA-GANE ?
IDI-OTS.
JUST DON'T FORGET TO SUB-MIT IT BEFORE THE DEAD-LINE
HA-GANE
WAIT !
EH ?
DO YOU THINK THE BASKET-BALL CLUB CAN KEEP UP WITH ME ?
HONES-TLY, DO YOU THINK THEY'RE ANY GOOD ?
I DO

PLEASE, DON'T PROVOKE HIM LIKE THAT!
HUH ?
AHH. HE GETS ANGRY VERY EASILY
I'M REALLY BEGIN-ING TO WONDER WHAT YOU SEE IN HIM.
THAT ... DON'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT ...
THIS PERSON CAN BE PUSHY ...
FOR SOME REASON, HE MAKES ME FEEL UNEASY ...
?
YOU'RE A STR-ANGE PER-SON
stare
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOU'RE DIFFICULT TO SPEAK TO!

WHAT? ISN'T IT NORMAL TO TRY OUT FOR A CLUB?
WHA-T'S THIS?
bounce
bounce
HAGANE
WOOSH

HA-GA-NE
WHETHER IT'S BASE-BALL OR BASKET-BALL, HE'S ALWAYS THE BEST
HE'S AWE-SOME, RIGHT?
WELL WELL
I SEE THAT HE'S ACTUAL-LY PRETTY GOOD
HM
SUZUKO WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN YOU PART WAYS AFTER SENIOR YEAR?
EH
NO
EVEN AFTER, HE'LL STILL BE THERE BECAUSE
HUH?

TRIPLE TEAM HIM!
don't let him score easily anyway!
EH
EH?
EEH?!
EH
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD
great moves
NOT REAL-LY
YOU
THE TWO OF YOU LIVE TOGETH-ER?!
YES.

TRIPLE TEAM HIM!
...WE'RE NOT HIM, SIR. ANY MORE?
EH?
EH ...
EEH?!
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD
...GREAT MOVES.
NOT REAL-LY
YOU
THE TWO OF YOU LIVE TOGETH-ER?!
...YES.

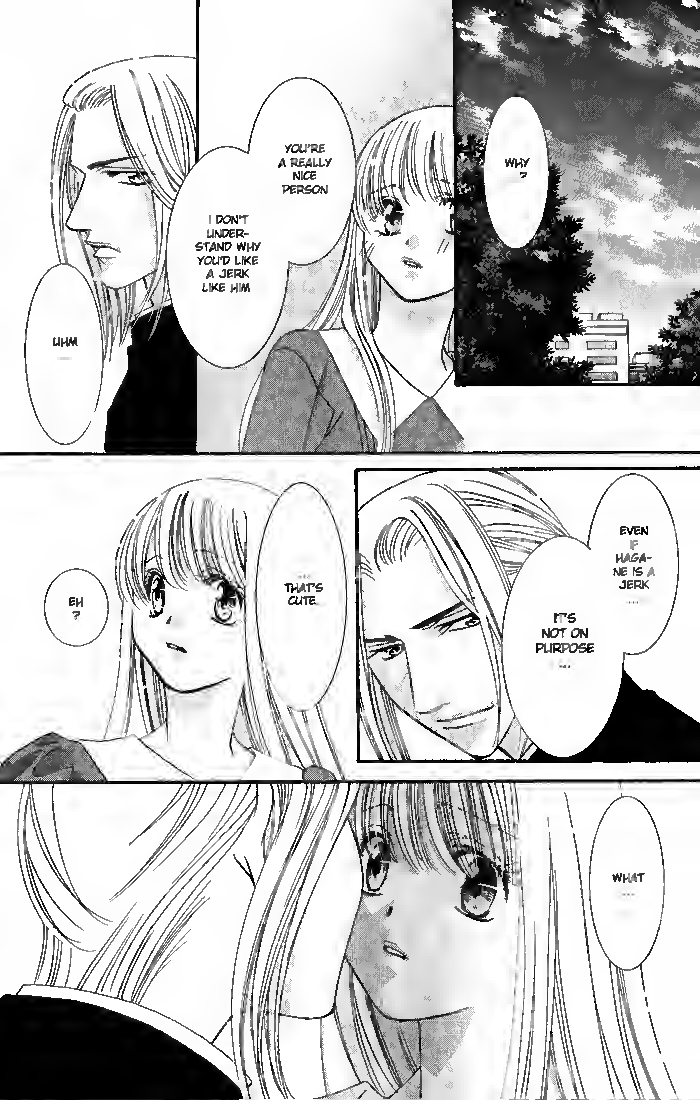
SU-ZU-KO
HEY!
HA-GANE
I'LL JUST FINISH UP
THEN LET'S GO HOME.
THE TWO OF YOU REALLY LIVE TOGE-THER ?!
IT'S NOT WHAT YOU'RE THINK-ING
WE LIVE IN THE SAME HOUSE BUT ON COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FLOORS

HAGANE, COULD WE NOT GO HOME TOGETHER TODAY?
AAH ??
...
WE DON'T EVEN DO WORTHLESS THINGS LIKE EATING TOGETHER
LET'S GO, SUZUKO.
EH ?
I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME WITH YOU!
I HATE IT WHEN YOU'RE THIS UNPLEASANT!
SUZUKO
IDIOT!
HAGANE, I HATE YOU!

SEEMS LIKE YOU REGRET WHAT YOU SAID.
HAA
IT'S JUST THAT
HE ALWAYS SPEAKS TO ME IN SUCH A RUDE MANNER!
I REALLY WANTED TO GO HOME WITH HIM. BUT HE MADE ME FURIOUS!
SOUNDS LIKE HE REALLY HURT YOU.
HM?
WHAT'S WITH THE SUDDEN SADNESS?
YOU...
THINK SO?

SUZUKO HE HURTS YOU, DOESN'T HE?
BUT IN THE END YOU'RE STILL GOING TO BE STUBBORN AND RETURN TO THAT IDIOT...
YOU'LL STILL WANT TO BE WITH HIM, WON'T YOU?
EVEN IF YOUR WHOLE LIFE PASSES YOU'LL STILL WANT THAT RIGHT?
I WOULD NEVER MAKE YOU CRY LIKE THAT, SUZUKO
EH ?

SIGH.
THAT GIRL GETS ANGRY TOO EASILY
I DIDN'T THINK SHE'D GET UPSET OVER SOMETHING AS SILLY AS THAT.
REALLY
I GUESS I SHOULD GO APOLOGIZE
HOW TROUBLESOME


UHM
I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHY YOU'D LIKE A JERK LIKE HIM
YOU'RE A REALLY NICE PERSON
WHY ?
EH ?
THAT'S CUTE.
EVEN IF HAGA-NE IS A JERK
IT'S NOT ON PURPOSE
WHAT

KYAA!
PUSH
WHAT WAS THAT?!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO. YOU'RE JUST SO CUTE!
EVEN HAGANE HASN'T KISSED ME YET!
EH? REA-LLY?
WHAT'S GOING ON...?

UGH
IDIOT! WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR ?!
I'M NOT A BAD PERSON
EH ?
NAH
DON'T SAY THAT
YOU
WHAT'S WITH HIS EXPRESSION ...?
MAY I LEAVE NOW?
I'LL GO HOME.
EH
HIS EXPRESSION CHANGED JUST THEN ...

I SHOULDN'T FORGIVE HIM... BUT SOMEHOW, I WAS TOUCHED.
I'LL GO LOOK FOR HAGANE NOW...
ANNOYING...
HM...?
HAGANE...?

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING ?!
WHY SO ANGRY ?
WHAT? I DIDN'T HURT HER, DID I ?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU AT ALL. NOT AT ALL.
IF YOU LIKE HER, WHY DO YOU TREAT HER LIKE THAT?
WHAT !?
YOU CLEARLY LIKE HER.
DON'T MISUNDERSTAND
JUST SHUT UP.

HAGANE ... SHOULD I TELL HIM ...?
TO BE MY FIRST KISS
creak
I WANTED HAGANE
HAGANE ?!
HA-GANE!
step
step
!

HA-GANE !?
WHAT HAPP-ENED? YOU'RE BLEED-ING ....
IT'S NOTH-ING ....
DON'T TOUCH IT.
HA-GANE ....
HAGANE, I... TALK TO ME ....
SHUT UP.
.... NO.
NOT UNTIL YOU TELL ME WHAT HA--
WHAT DO YOU WANT ?!

I SAW HIM KISS YOU!
...?!
HA-GANE

HAGANE... I GUESS THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED.

HA-
GANE
WHAT HE DID DOESN'T BOTHER YOU ?!
YOU'RE ONLY REALLY NICE TO ME WHEN PAPA'S AROUND
IT'S LIKE THE ONLY REASON YOU STAY WITH ME IS BECAUSE YOU'RE OBLI-GATED TO AND NOTHING ELSE
JUST WHO AM I TO YOU, REALLY ?!

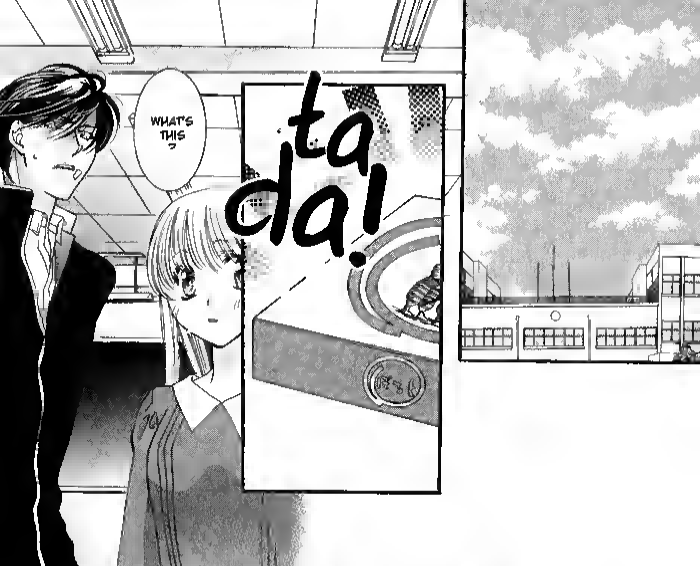
slam
AH,
YOU'VE BEEN SAYING SHIT LIKE THAT FOR SOME TIME NOW
JUST QUIT IT!
OW
I WANTED YOUR FIRST KISS!

AH
.....!
HA...
GA...
NE...

AHH
MMM
AH
HA-
G NE
...
MM
IT FELT
A LOT
DIFFERENT
...
SU-
ZU-
...
IT DOESN'T FEEL
WRONG...!

SU-ZU-
HA-GANE
HA
HA-GA-NE
A-
MM
SU-ZUKO
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME KISSING HIM
HE TASTES LIKE BLOOD
BUT I'M VERY HAPPY.

CAN YOU JUST THINK THAT...
THAT I TOOK YOUR FIRST KISS AND NOT MATSUIRA?
EH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HA-GANE?
I DON'T UNDER-STAND...


WHAT'S THIS?
ta da!

DON'T GET TOO EXCITED!
IT'S JUST A GIFT FROM ME
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK?
I'm suspicious
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE PLOTTING SOMETHING

THE THINGS YOU TOLD ME YESTERDAY WERE REALLY TOUCHING!
TSK
.....
THIS IS FOR OUR NEW-FOUND FRIENDSHIP!
DON'T SAY THAT!
ease up!

THE HELL.....NO WAY.
EH?
WHAT? DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED AFTER WE FOUGHT YESTERDAY?
AH, SUZUKO, DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
MATSURA!
IF YOU SAY ANYTHING ELSE, I'M GONNA KILL YOU!!

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